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DISCIPLINARY CASES AGAINST POLICE OFFICER JASON VAN DYKE AND FOUR OTHER OFFICERS REMAIN BEFORE THE POLICE BOARD

Today, the jury returned its verdict in the criminal case brought against Police Officer Jason Van Dyke for his fatal shooting of Laquan McDonald. The disciplinary cases brought against Officer Van Dyke and four other officers related to this shooting remain before the Chicago Police Board, but have not been under active review because they are stayed.

In August 2016 the Superintendent filed with the Police Board charges against Officer Van Dyke, Sergeant Stephen Franko, and Police Officers Janet Mondragon, Daphne Sebastian, and Ricardo Viramontes, recommending that each of the five officers be discharged from the Chicago Police Department. In June 2017 the Board ordered these cases stayed because going ahead with the disciplinary cases against these officers at that time could prejudice and potentially jeopardize the pending criminal proceedings and the officers' constitutional rights.

The Board stands ready to hear these cases once doing so will no longer prejudice or potentially jeopardize any criminal case or constitutional right. The Board will promptly and thoroughly consider any motion to lift the stay, and any hearing on such a motion will be announced at a public meeting of the Board and on the Board's website at ChicagoPoliceBoard.org.

The role of the Police Board is to serve as an impartial body that makes decisions based on the evidence presented at a disciplinary hearing. The Board takes final action on all cases in public at its monthly meetings, where each Board member's vote is announced and recorded, and the Board posts on its website its written decisions, which include detailed explanations of the reasons for the Board's findings.



All charges filed by the Superintendent and detailed information about the Board's process for handling disciplinary cases are available at ChicagoPoliceBoard.org.

The Police Board does not comment on the substance of specific disciplinary cases that are pending before the Board.

The public is reminded that the filing of charges is not evidence of guilt. The accused officers are presumed innocent and are entitled to a fair hearing at which the Superintendent has the burden of proving guilt by a preponderance of the evidence.

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